



Northwest Iowa
Community College

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NEWS RELEASE

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Northwest Iowa Community College Hosts 8th Annual Diversity Days

Northwest Iowa Community College, Sheldon, Iowa, will host its 8th Annual Diversity Days with two discussion panels. *Breaking the Glass Ceiling* will be on Monday, November 18, and *Non-Traditional Roles in Business/Life* Wednesday, November 20, with both discussion panels starting at 11:20 a.m. room A117.

Stephan Gibbons, NCC Diversity Committee Chairperson and Instructor, discussed the purpose of the Diversity Committee and Diversity Days, "The mission of our Diversity Committee is to create a welcoming atmosphere to all people, challenge stereotypes, and promote sensitivity, inclusion and mutual respect for each other. The purpose of NCC's Fall Diversity Days has been a time when we focus on a group or area of interest to help our student body and the entire campus be more aware, respectful and inclusive of all people. This fall our focus is on non-traditional roles."

Monday, November 18, the panel discussion will be *Breaking the Glass Ceiling* with: Dr. Alethea Stubbe, NCC President; Dr. Jan Snyder, Vice President - Institutional Advancement & External Affairs; Gretchen Bartelson, Dean of Extended Learning Services; Dr. Rhonda Pennings, Dean - Arts & Sciences/Business/Health; and Beth Sibenaller-Woodall, Registrar/Associate Dean of Students.

NCC has many women in leadership. The first panel discussion is with women on NCC's Executive Council. You will hear about barriers they have overcome and things that have helped them along the way. NCC is a place of opportunity for women and men.

Wednesday, November 20, the panel discussion will be *Non-Traditional Roles in Business/Life* with: Scott Derek Thomas, NCC Alumnus, Nurse - Spencer Hospital; Nancy McDowell, NCC Welding Alumnus, NCC Instructor - Continuing Education; Lance Brown, at home dad; Katricia Meendering, Sheldon Mayor.

NCC's second panel discussion is with NCC alumni and people in the area who are in non-traditional roles in business. You will hear about how NCC is a place of opportunity for our students to move into the workforce with their abilities and skills, regardless of the stereotypes.

The public is invited to attend. Gibbons concluded, "Diversity Days is a fun opportunity to see the creativity of our students and realize our own cultural depth. The event is free and we encourage the public to attend. We enjoy showing off the talents of our students, alumni, and staff."